

in a different light: *the dark side of illumination*

An exhibition of fine art oil photography by **Charlie Lim**

Photos will be on display from 22 September till 31 October 2006

the coffee connoisseur "The Gallery"
51 Circular Road



presented by:

the coffee connoisseur



"Master2"

Photo printed on canvas A1 2006

Opening Hours :

Sunday to Thursday & Public Holidays 11am to 12am

Friday, Saturday & Eve of Public Holidays 11am to 2am

"Oil painting or photograph?" That is the question. With his masterful play of light and shadow, Charlie Lim has successfully blurred the line between fine art and photography. The exquisitely crafted images are a perfect example of digital art with impeccable execution.

Hailed from Singapore, his work is inextricably inspired by his surroundings. Childhood memories of his cousin drawing and a Chinese Opera or *Wayang* artiste painting—all contributed to his fascination and love for the local culture.

Through the camera lens, he records emotion and time.

Charlie Lim's portraits are classically composed with dramatic beauty. The use of dark hues and shadows in his images not only invites intrigue, it captures the psychology of the subjects with tact, sensibility and detail. Understated but extremely developed, his portraits exude a certain mysticism that can only be created by a painter of light.

In contrast to his dark portraits, we see an exotic collage of old Chinese characters and patterns, drowned in bright splashes of imperial gold. Like monumental paintings, his large works on textile create a dramatically abstract space that is surreal, captivating and seamless in composition.

Charlie's passion for food is also vibrantly expressed in his art. A typical Singapore breakfast of bread, half-boiled egg and tea in an old tin mug, is immortalized yet manages to evoke a palpable sense of the everyday.

In a different light, perspectives change as reality takes on a new form.

Ten of Charlie Lim's photographs are selected and will be exhibited in Photokina—a leading trade fair for the photographic and imaging sector in Germany from 26 September – 1 October 2006. He is also available for commission work.



*Enabling great talents to
shine the way they deserve...*



Charlie Lim

About **Charlie Lim** FMPA (UK) Hon. SCPS

Charlie Lim's creative and original style has won him national and overseas recognition. His photography career started twenty-five years ago upon graduation in both advertising art and commercial photography.

He has worked on a vast array of international projects, ranging from food and fashion to corporate and industrial photography.

His unique style has graced many brochures, annual reports, calendars and high profile advertisements. His clientele includes major advertising agencies, design houses and publishing houses.

Charlie served as President of the Professional Photographers Association, Singapore (PPAS) from 1998-2001. He is a fellow and local ambassador of the Master Photographers Association (MPA, UK) and was also awarded an Honorary Fellow of the Singapore Colour Photographic Society (Hon. SCPS).



Century wines 2006

Recently, Charlie was invited by the MPA to give a talk on "Trends in Advertising Photography" to be held in London on October 2006. He was recently elected the Vice President of PhotoManila for 2008. Prior to being elected to this esteemed position, Charlie has held seminars for them on two occasions. The first talk was held in 1998 and another one in 2005 as one of the International speakers. Apart from his international responsibilities, Charlie mentors in the Noise Singapore 2006 Apprenticeship Programme (Photography category), which was launched in May 2006.



Portraits 2006

Charlie's works have been featured in many publications, including One Small Island – Central TV Programme (2000), Canon Endorsement Press Ads (2002), Unilever-Bertolli Italian Cookbook (2004), Sony Imagestation Asia (magazine section) and many more. He has also lectured in NAFA (Singapore), teaching Commercial Photography to 3rd year students majoring in photography.

Martial Arts is also one of Charlie's passions. He holds a 3rd Dan in (Japanese) Aikido, 1st Dan in (Korean) Hapkido and 1st Dan in (Chinese) Nam Wah Pai. He is also an aspiring chef and won a consolation prize among 371 participants in the islandwide Millennium Cooking Contest in the year 2000.

Charlie's works have been featured in:

- Photo Asia Magazine (91-96)
- SAFRA Club Magazine (96)
- Local News Daily, The Straits Times (96)
- Mont Blanc (HP-Germany) Newsletter (96)
- Konica Newsletter (98)
- PhotoCreator (Malaysia – 98)
- AsiaPhoto.com (99)
- One Small Island – Central TV Programme (00)
- AdVoice Magazine (Jan 01)
- Project Eyeball (27th Apr 01)
- Business of Portrait by Tom MacDonald (USA-02)
- Canon Endorsement Press Ad (02)
- Zarina's Cookbook (02)
- Betty Saw's Retro Foods Cookbook (04)
- Master Photographers Association (UK) Magazine (Jan 04)
- Photoi Magazine (Apr 04)
- Quick and Easy Cooking by Celine J. Marbeck (04)
- The New Paper On Sunday (Feb 6th 06)
- Sony's Imagination Asia (magazine section) '06

Speaker for the following seminars:

- Singapore Colour Photographic Society (4 x half day Seminar)
- On Commercial Photography to serious amateurs
- SAFRA (Singapore Armed Forces) Club on the same topic as above
- China Photo World '97 (Beijing)
- Photoworld Manila '98 – Lightpainting/Polaroid Transfer
- Korea Photo Art Seminar '98
- Boon Lay CC '98
- Epson Square (Halfday Photographic Talk) Feb '01
- Food Festival 2001 – “Good Food and Good Shoot” at Far East Plaza
- Lecturer in NAFA (Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts) for 3rd Year Student, major in photography (2002-2003)
- Vietnam for Fujifilm – on Commercial Photography '04
- Photoworld Manila '98 – Lightpainting/Polaroid Transfer
- Photoworld Manila '05 – Trends in Advertising Photography



Master2



Painting1

© Charlie Lim

tcc's latest exhibition at the Art Gallery will be showcasing more than 20 unique photos by Singaporean photographer Charlie Lim. The exhibition will be held from 22 September till 31 October 2006.

For more information, interview or commission work with **Charlie Lim**

Contact the organizer

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the coffee connoisseur

- **An Art Space for Everyday Use:**

At tcc's Circular Road outlet we have created an Art Gallery where a whole range of work by both local and foreign artists will be featured through constantly changing exhibitions. Something new will be on view approximately every three months.

The old heritage building that backs on to Singapore's historic river district lends itself perfectly to an art gallery. The ground floor offers the more conventional seating for those in a rush, while those who want to escape from outside pressure and stress can slip upstairs out of sight and away from the sound of the busy street outside.

Here the seating is even more unconventional; beanbags that let you sink into oblivion are scattered across the space. Here you can read the art magazines provided and enjoy the paintings on the wall. Art, like a great cup of coffee, shouldn't be rushed.

tcc created this very special art space in a city that seeks to nurture the arts because we want art to communicate in a relaxed atmosphere. And let's face it! It's so easy to relax over a good a cup of coffee.

The artists whose work appears at the Art Gallery at tcc have a wonderful opportunity to reach a wider audience through a space that is frequented by people from many areas of work, and especially those who may not have the time nor inclination to visit more conventional art spaces like museums and galleries.

- **Special Partnerships:**

tcc recognises the benefits not only of supporting the arts by forging creative partnerships with people who specialise in the arts, we also let art experts do what they're good at while we get on and do what we're best at – providing excellent service and great coffee.

We work exclusively with art-management.com, a company dedicated to promoting and managing visual artists both in Singapore and overseas.

art-management.com has, from its beginning focused on linking the artists it represents with leading brand names in a way that will be of benefit to both artist and brand. tcc is the latest in a long list of leading brands that art-management.com has been proud to work with.

Claude Verly, Director of art-management.com has commented in relation to his partnership with tcc, "One of the biggest challenges in managing art and artists in Singapore today is finding new and unusual venues in which to present the art, and then matching up the artist with the venue. This latest venture with tcc takes art-management.com into a new phase; together we can take art into the public arena rather than relying on people coming to the art. At the Art Gallery at tcc, the art will be there whether people look at it or not."

Through art-management.com, tcc is able to provide space to artists free of rent, and as a chain business we can further support them by providing publicity and exposure through media coverage and other events. tcc can help absorb many of the costs that artists find it hard to deal with.